

COUNTRY East Germany Approved For Release 2002/07/15 : CIA-RDP80-00810A001100480007-0TOPIC Brandis Airfield

25X1A

EVALUATION see belowPLACE OBTAINED [redacted]DATE OF CONTENT 21 February to 19 March 1953

25X1C

DATE OBTAINED [redacted]

25X1C

DATE PREPARED 8 April 1953

REFERENCES _____

PAGES 3

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) _____

1 sketch on ditto

REMARKS _____

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1. The following air activity was observed at Brandis airfield between 21 February and 19 March 1953:

21 February. Sixteen IL-10s were observed at the take-off point at 10 a.m. At 10:15 a.m., the planes took off and practiced formation flying up to 4 p.m. with intermediate landings. In the meantime, an IL-10 towing a sleeve target was observed aloft.

22 February. No air activity was observed.

23 February. A biplane took off at 5 p.m.

24 and 25 February. MiG-15s practiced local flying over the field.

26 February. There was no air activity in foggy weather.

27 February. Between 2 and 4 p.m., a biplane was in the air.

28 February. It was foggy in the morning. At 11 a.m., the cloud base was scattered. At 2 p.m., a plane circled over the field.

1 March. Local flying started at 9:15 a.m. An IL-10 plane towing a sleeve target was aloft at 11 a.m. Sixteen IL-10s practiced formation flying at noon. Individual IL-10s practiced diving. The air activity was discontinued at about 5:30 p.m.

2 March. No air activity was observed.

3 March. After 10:40 a.m., there was air activity while the weather was clear and visibility good.

4 March. No plane was observed aloft. Visibility was limited to 4 or 5 km.

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5 March. At about 10 a.m., 30 IL-10s taxied to the middle of the runway. Sixteen IL-10s took off at 11:40 a.m. heading northeast. After the planes had landed, 30 IL-10s took off at 2:20 p.m. heading northeast. The aircraft landed up to 3:30 p.m.

15 March. An Li-2 plane with a gray propeller hub and gray rudders landed at the field at 2 p.m. At 3 p.m., another twin-engine plane, probably an IL-12, landed at the field and was parked near the repair hangar.

16 March. About 36 IL-10s were counted at the field.

17 March. At 8 a.m., 16 IL-10s taxied to the west end of the runway where they were parked. At 8:30 a.m., 7 IL-10s took off at short intervals. The remaining 9 planes took off at 11 a.m. [redacted]

After the planes had taken off, no IL-10s were observed at the field. The IL-10s did not return to the field up to 19 March. A worker who occasionally entered the field said that the ground attack unit "had taken everything along". (sic) At 5:15 p.m., an Li-2 plane with red propeller hubs landed at the field and was parked near the repair hangar.

19 March. Between 9 and 10 a.m., a Li-2 plane flew over the field and its near vicinity. At noon, the two Li-2s took off from the field and were not observed landing. At 3 p.m., a Yak-14 plane landed. This plane and the IL-12 plane were the only aircraft observed at the field.¹

2. On 16 March, six large crates were observed between the two eastern hangars. Almost at the same place, similar crates had been observed when the field was occupied by MiG-15s. Between 17 and 19 March, work was apparently carried out on these crates as their arrangement changed daily.
3. On 16 March, source learned from a man whose field bordered on the eastern edge of the landing field that, some weeks before, a pipeline 10 to 12 cm in diameter had been laid from the fuel containers located along the spur track. Some time before, source had actually observed a line in this section of the field, but no details could be noticed.²
4. Six AA guns with a estimated caliber of 76 mm were observed in the northeastern section of the field. Four temporary buildings surrounded by earth walls were erected west of the guns.³

[redacted]

6. At about 3 p.m. on 5 March, 37 ground attack planes took off and headed east flying in a formation. The planes landed at about 4 p.m. [redacted]

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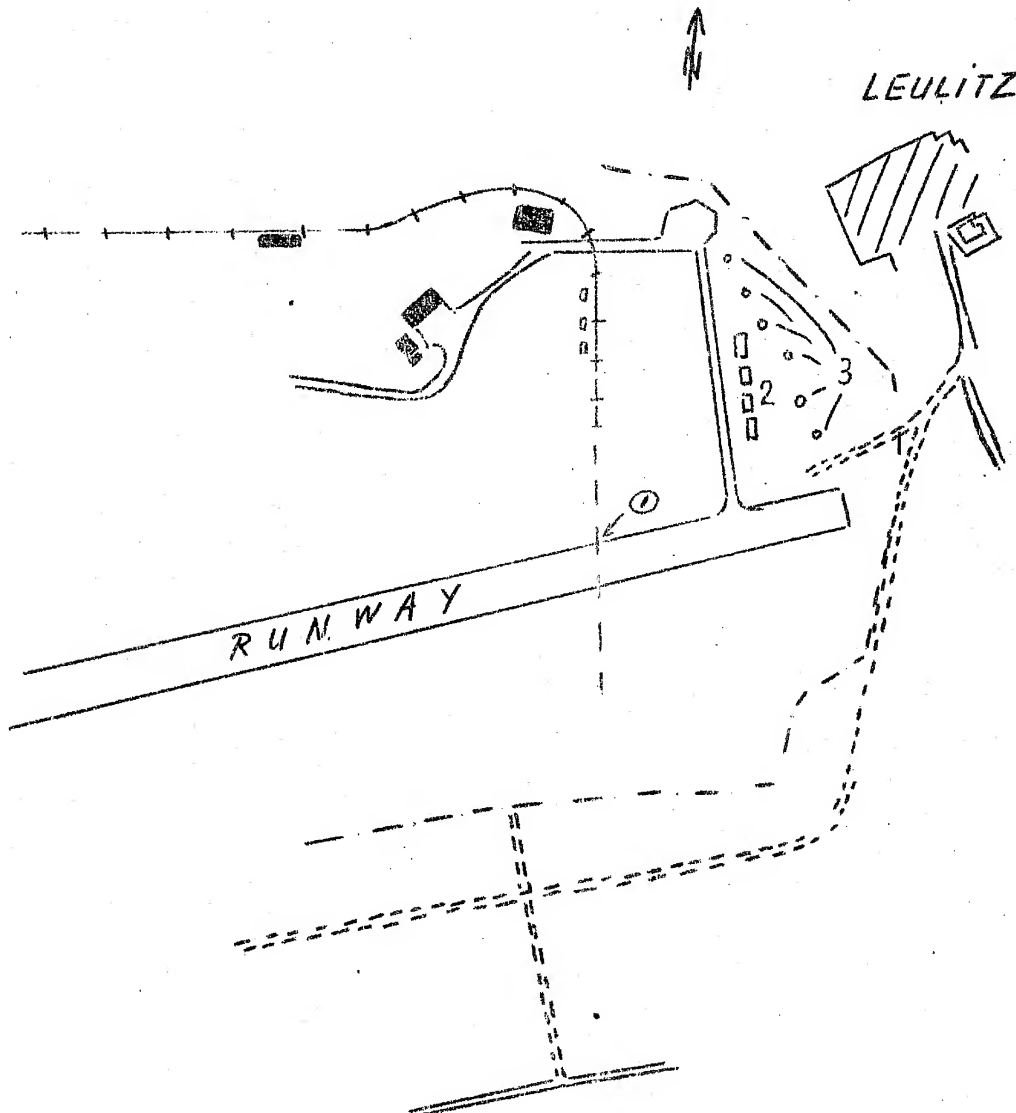
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- 25X1A 1. ☐ Comment. It was previously believed that Brandis airfield was occupied by a ground attack regiment equipped with about 50 IL-10s. According to the present report, however, it is assumed that the regiment was transferred. The present location of the regiment is not yet known. The presence of a Yak-14 and an IL-12 plane may indicate that the field will soon be re-occupied by an air unit.
- 25X1A 2. ☐ Comment. For course of fuel line, see Annex.
- 25X1A 3. ☐ Comment. For location of AA guns, see Annex. Source probably erred in estimating the caliber of the AA guns. According to previous information, it is improbable that six 76-mm AA guns are combined in one battery. Besides, 76-mm AA guns were never observed at airfields occupied by ground attack regiments.

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Eastern Section of Brandis Airfield



Legend:

- 1 Fuel line
- 2 Low wooden buildings
- 3 AA guns

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